

From: Broadcast, DOC
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 7:59 AM
To: Broadcast, DOC
Subject: Department of Commerce Operating Status

To: All DOC Except USPTO, NTIS, and FirstNet



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OPERATING STATUS

Due to a lapse in annual appropriations for the Department of Commerce (DOC) no further financial obligations may be incurred by affected DOC bureaus and operating units except for those directly related to the orderly suspension of operations or the performance of excepted activities. Consequently, the DOC will be operating in a partial shutdown mode.

For those who were scheduled to work on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, upon your arrival at your normal start time, you should check your email for specific shutdown-related guidance and information. You will be provided formal notification of your status by your supervisor or manager. Please read your notice and all related attachments and comply with the directions contained in those attachments. Questions that cannot be answered by your supervisor may be directed to your servicing human resources office.

For those who were not scheduled to work on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, you should conduct your shutdown-related activities as mentioned above on the first day you were scheduled to work, if there is still a lapse in appropriations on that day.

Employees occupying positions that have been excepted from furlough to perform excepted activities are reminded that they may only perform those specific activities for which their positions have been deemed excepted. Some agencies across the Government have received annual appropriations and are fully operational. As a result, staff from those agencies may reach out to excepted employees for assistance, unaware of the Department's operational status. Excepted employees must coordinate with their supervisor and/or bureau's lapse plan coordinator to ensure the provision of such assistance is an excepted function that may be permissibly undertaken during a lapse in appropriations. The Office of the General Counsel will remain available to advise bureau's lapse plan coordinators as needed on the permissible scope of excepted functions.

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